

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring communications usage, comprising:

receiving a call routed from a dialed number in a native transport network to a virtual telephone number in a service-providing network, the native transport network having limited [[or no]] capability of providing advanced telephony service;

providing the advanced telephony service to the call, wherein the virtual telephone number utilizes [[the]] intelligent services provided by the service-providing network;

routing the call from the service-providing network to a terminating network destination; and

monitoring a duration of the call traversing the service-providing network.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring a status of the call.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising routing the call to an original destination via the native transport network.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the service-providing network is selected from a [[the]] group consisting of a wireline network, a wireless network, and a packet-switching network.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising associating the virtual telephone number to a wireless telephone number existing in the native transport network.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising associating the virtual telephone number to another telephone number existing in the native transport network.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the native transport network is selected from a [[the]] group consisting of a wireline network, a wireless network, and a packet-switching network.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising billing a telecommunications provider of the native transport network for monitoring the duration of the call.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising billing a subscriber based on the duration of the call.
11. (Currently Amended) A system for monitoring communications usage, the system ~~operative to~~ comprising:

a processor executing software stored in memory that causes the processor to:

receive a call routed from a dialed number in a native transport network to a virtual telephone number in a service-providing network, the native transport network having limited [[or no]] capability of providing advanced telephony service;

provide the advanced telephony service to the call, wherein the virtual telephone number utilizes [[the]] intelligent services provided by the service-providing network;

route the call from the service-providing network to a terminating network destination; and

monitor a duration of the call traversing the service-providing network.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to monitor a status of the call.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to route the call to an original destination via the native transport network.
14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to associate the virtual telephone number to another telephone number existing in the native transport network.
15. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to associate the virtual telephone number to a packet voice-based telephone number existing in the native transport network.
16. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the service-providing network comprises an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN).
17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the service-providing network comprises a packet-switching network.
18. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to modify messages accompanying the call so that the call is not routed back to the service-providing network in an endless loop.
19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the software further causes the processor to modify caller information associated with the call.
20. (Cancel)
21. (New) Memory storing software that causes a processor to perform a method for monitoring communications usage, the method comprising:

receiving a call routed from a dialed number in a native transport network to a virtual telephone number in a service-providing network, the native transport network having limited capability of providing advanced telephony service;

providing the advanced telephony service to the call, wherein the virtual telephone number utilizes intelligent services provided by the service-providing network;

routing the call from the service-providing network to a terminating network destination; and

monitoring a duration of the call traversing the service-providing network.